



May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

1 Thessalonians 3:12

April 23, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Amanda Bakale

Elder-in-Charge: Darlene B

[* Please rise, in body or spirit]

Gathering and Greeting

Gathering Song: *"Freedom Song"*

*Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

*Songs of Praise: *"I Will Follow"*

"Your Grace is Enough"

Confession and Assurance

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

GEMS Litany

Song of Thanksgiving: PsH #473 *"To God Be the Glory"*

Children's Message and Blessing

Children ages 3 – Grade 3 are now invited to participate in Sunday School. Children (ages 3-5 only) need to be signed in and out by a parent or guardian.

Proclamation of the Word

Song of Preparation: *"Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3: 11-13

Sermon: **"Always and Forever Love"**

Prayer of Application

Response to the Word

*Song of Response: *"Thy Word"*

GEMS Update

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community CRC

2) GEMS Girls Club

Offertory: *"One Thing Remains"*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: *"My Friends, May You Grow in Grace"*

The congregation is asked to remain in their seats after the service to allow the Pastor and people with special duties or disabilities to exit first.

Please exit when the music begins.



Following the service, everyone is invited to come together for fellowship and coffee/tea/juice in the gymnasium. Coffee for seniors is served in the Multi-Purpose room.

6:00 pm

No Service at Church

Communities/Community Care Groups Meet

Study materials for tonight can be found on the church website (www.ccrcc.on.ca)

Under the "Communities" tab.

Hard copies are available at the Information Centre

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong

Mike H (11) had been in Grand River Hospital for the past week due to pain in the bowel area. He has had surgery and is doing very well. He hopes to be home in the coming week.

Denise H (11) had her first follow up appointment after her cancer treatments. The doctors were happy with the progress and the next checkup will be in 3 months.

John N (3) is continuing treatments and is doing well. He is becoming physically stronger and is able to move around and walk more each day.

Note from John and Barb V: While driving home from Florida last week, Barb V experienced a perforated appendix. Wanting to be home, we continued driving and went to Grand River Hospital. The appendix was successfully removed on Good Friday. Doctors commented she was "lucky to be alive." We don't believe in luck. The abscess had formed a sac around the burst appendix and kept the poison contained; an extremely rare occurrence. Barb is now recuperating at home. We praise God and give him the glory for his miraculous care which is so overwhelmingly clear to us.

John & Tina B (8) are in their final week of volunteering with World Renew Disaster Response Services in San Marcos TX. Pray for a productive week and safe travels home.

Please continue to pray for:

- those who are shut-in and/or unable to worship with us on a regular basis because of various health issues;
- those dealing with various illness among members of their extended family;
- those dealing with depression and other forms of mental illness (if you are dealing with depression a couple of people, who have been there, have stepped forward to help in whatever way they can. Pastor Carel can give you more details);
- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects: **Sarah B** (8), **Jane D** (14), **Denise H** (11), **John N** (3), **Claire N**, a 6th grade student at Laurentian Hills Christian School. Claire's father **Terry N** is a nephew to **John and Ruth N**;
- those who are unemployed or underemployed;
- **Gary and Galya T**; **John and Jane H** with Samaritan Foundation in the Dominican Republic; **Anthony and Barbara P** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island; **David and Jessica O** with World Renew in Senegal; **Kim H** with CRWM in Guatemala, **Hank and Rosario S** volunteering with CRWM in Guatemala; **David and Bethany N** (7) volunteering in Mali.
- persecuted Church in Sudan
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation.

Congratulations to following members of our congregation celebrating birthdays in the coming week:



April 26 – John N (3)
April 27 – Alice V (5)

May they experience God’s richest blessings in the coming year and as they celebrate their birthday!

Congratulations to **Pieter and Yolanda V**



(4) who celebrate their **40th wedding anniversary** on April 30. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Congratulations to **Rob and Elena W (8)** who celebrate their **20th wedding anniversary** on April 28. May God continue to bless and strengthen their marriage for many years to come!

Thank You: On behalf of the F Family we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone for all of the meaningful things you have done for our family. It meant so much to us during this difficult time. You have made this sad time much easier to cope with.

Don (8) and Brenda

OFFERING SCHEDULE

**Budget Contributions
For April 16, 2017**

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Contributions (Shortfall)/ Surplus
Apr 16	\$16,521	\$12,743	\$3,778
YTD	\$222,416	\$250,298	(\$27,882)
Christian Reformed Home Missions			\$ 3,004.05
Food Bank of Waterloo Region			\$ 25.00
Good Friday Service - April 14			
Ray of Hope			1,911.20

This week our offering is for GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour) “GEMS Girls’ Clubs believes that girls matter to God. And when a girl understands her value and worth as His child—she can change the world! That’s why (for nearly 60 years!) we’ve offered biblically-based curriculum and leadership development opportunities to women and girls around the globe. Together, we can inspire girls everywhere to live radically faithful lives! It is through both your prayers and financial support that we will continue to live out our mission to help bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.” www.gemsgc.org

Next Sunday our offering is for World Renew – Refugee Sunday. In the midst of a refugee crisis, World Renew’s refugee sponsorship ministry continues to give refugees, their sponsoring churches, and people around the world new opportunities to see God’s goodness. In 2016 alone, a total of 155 applications—representing a total of 403 refugees—were submitted to World Renew’s Refugee Office.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Apr 30	10 a.m.	Pastor John Baptisms: Nathan G (8) Charlotte L (11) Alec L (7) Jordan S (11) Profession of Faith Christina G (7) Baptism and Profession of Faith Greg H (14)
	6 p.m.	Shannon C/Pastor Carel Lord's Supper
May 7	10 a.m.	Pastor Bernie D Friendship Participate
	6 p.m.	Communities/Community Care Groups meet (final meeting)

Next Sunday we will be celebrating the sacrament of Communion in the EVENING Service. The Council of Community CRC invites believers of all ages to the table, following an age and ability appropriate public profession of faith. If you desire to come to the table but have not made profession of faith, please let a pastor or elder know so we can begin the conversation.

COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

Today Devotionals: The May/June edition of the Today Devotional Booklet is available at the Information Centre and on the shelves by the front doors. Please help yourself! Large Print copies are in the mailboxes of those member who have requested them. If you would like to receive a Large Print copy on a regular basis, please let the church office know.

Mark Your Calendars! Weekend Pastors' Class - June 23-24: Our first ever weekend version of the Pastors' Class will take place at Community CRC from Friday evening, June 23, to Saturday evening, June 24. We will cover the same material from our 6 week Pastors' Class offered every October. If you're new to CCRC, want to deepen your faith, or are thinking about making profession of faith, this class is for you! More details to come.

Church Clean-Up: It's time again for the annual church ground's clean-up. We'll start tomorrow, April 24 and if needed continue May 1. We'll need garden rakes, leave rakes, etc. We'll especially need someone with a chain saw to remove a downed sumac. If you can help, great! Any able-bodied person can show up at 9:00 am. We'll work for 3 hrs. Coffee and doughnuts provided. Contact Bernie D if you have questions.

This past Wednesday around 50 people gathered for Dive into Doctrine and started studying the Belgic Confession. This course is open to all members - Grade 6 and up. The evening begins at 7 p.m. with a social time including some food. At 7:15 we gather in the sanctuary for a time of devotions and song. The class starts at 7:30 pm and is led by the three pastors. If you didn't attend this past week you are welcome to join whenever you are able. The program runs for 6 more weeks. This week will be a study on the Trinity.

The Youth Ministries Team needs some short term help on Monday May 22, 2017.

For many years CCRC's youth program has volunteered to organize and provide the bagged take-away lunches for the All Ontario Youth Convention held on the May long weekend at Wilfrid Laurier University. This has been a wonderful fundraiser for our youth program over the years by allowing our youth to fund and participate in mission trips and also has allowed our youth to bless other churches and organizations with donations. The AOYC will be held from May 19 – 22, 2017 this year and our responsibility would be to provide a bagged lunch for the conventioners to travel home with on Monday May 22. **The YMT is looking for a list of people that can help with composing, packaging, and transporting the lunches to WLU on the Monday morning.** If you feel you would be able to assist in this event, please contact Harry O. Thanks for your consideration!

VINE will be meeting after the morning service today. We will be talking about baptism. Don't know what VINE is all about? If you are an interested young adult, come to the meeting or talk to Matthias for more information.

Knifty Knitters: If you love to knit and/or crochet, please join us at the church on Tuesday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m. for another morning of caring through crafting. Visitors are always welcome.



Friendship will meet this Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the church. This week we will have a social, starting with pizza supper! Afterwards, we will have a sharing time, telling each other what we enjoyed most about Friendship this year.



Council meets this Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the church.

Volleyball: All are welcome to join in this Tuesday, at 8:30 p.m. for fun and non-competitive volleyball. If you have questions or would like to know more, please contact Adom P or check out our Facebook Page "Volleyball at CCRC".

Ladies: all ages are welcome to join us for Coffee Break Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. here in the multipurpose room. Nursery and preschool classes (up to age SK) are provided. This week we



continue with our three studies. The three studies being offered are: 1) Shauna Niequist's book "Present Over Perfect", 2) "Galatians: Heaven's Freedom" by Brian Simmons, and 3) an in-depth study of the book of Proverbs. Come join us for fellowship, coffee, and growing deeper in relationship with God and each other. Any questions? Contact Carling L or Jen F at coffeebreak@ccrc.on.ca

GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour – girls ages 7–13) will meet this coming Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the church.



Friday Night Bible Study - will be held at Herman and Magda's on April 28th 7:30pm. Richard D. will lead us through lesson 3 of Smedes book "A Pretty Good Person" which you should have received by email. Please let Magda or Herman know whether you plan to attend.

Youth News

Student Impact Grades 9-12

Student Impact will meet this week and continue studying The Belgic Confession.

The evening starts at 7 p.m. with a social time including some food. At 7:15 p.m. we gather in the sanctuary for a time of devotions and song. The class starts at 7:30 pm and this week we will meet separately from the adults in the gym.

On Saturday, April 29, there will be a fun evening for youth at Guelph First CRC. Games will begin at 4 PM and dinner and a worship service to follow. Please sign up on the youth board if you are interested. Rides will be arranged through the church.

AOYC 2017 - Calling all young people 14-18! Come to the 2017 All Ontario Youth Convention in Waterloo over the May long weekend. This year's theme is Know Fully: Fully Known. We are fully known by a God who loves us, and we can know him. So how does knowing this change our minds, hearts, and lives? Join us at AOYC 2017 to discover the truth about God's love and our place in his plan! Find out more and register at <http://www.allontario.com/>. **Community CRC will pay for \$70 for each of our youth**

registered BEFORE Monday, May 1. After you register online (www.allontario.com) put the printed form and the registration fee minus \$70 (cheques made out to CCRC) in Pastor Amanda's mailbox.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

For all of the announcements, employment and volunteer opportunities available through the Denomination and others, please see the listing and posters on the bulletin board across from the washrooms for information.

Make Sure You Sign Up - It's just days now till "Resilient Families: Walking Together through Every Generation" on April 29 in Whitby ON. Keynote speaker: Sara Pot. Workshops will feature sibling relationships, mutual support, estate planning, supporting one another, and ways churches can come alongside families. See www.crcna.org/disability for registration link. Call Heather at 1-800-730-3490 for information on scholarships for people with disabilities. If you plan on attending please let the church office know to organize possible carpooling.

Available Free in the Digital Library - "Earthwise: A Guide to Hopeful Creation Care" is available free to all in the CRC through the Digital Library (crcna.org/Library). In this book, creation care scientist Calvin B. DeWitt shows how we can regain a joyful, positive attitude about working together for good and living in harmony with creation.

MISCELLANEOUS

Festival of Praise The Christian Male Chorus Association of Southwestern Ontario invites you to its annual Festival of Praise to be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at St. Paul's Congregational Church, 450 Park Ave. W., Chatham, ON N7M 1X2. This musical evening will include performances by five individual choirs as well as mass presentations. Purchase of tickets at \$10/person can be arranged through Ed G, Clarence S, Andy V or can be purchased at the door, depending on availability. Please consider joining us for a wonderful evening of praise and worship.

Plans are underway for Woodland Christian High School's 21st Annual Golf Tournament. This year's tournament is being held at Beaverdale Golf Club on Saturday, June 17, 2017. Registration opens at 11:30am, with a shotgun start at 12:00pm. After golf, there will be a fantastic steak dinner and awards presentation. Learn more, and register online at www.woodland.on.ca/golf. Consider putting together an alumni foursome in celebration of the school's 40th Anniversary!